

NEWS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release
December 8, 2005

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Lincoln Man Indicted For Producing and Possessing Child Pornography

Springfield, Illinois -- Rodger A. Heaton, United States Attorney for the Central District of Illinois, announced that a federal grand jury today returned an indictment charging Howard D. Pinkley, age 58, of 929 Broadway Street, Lincoln, Illinois, with production and possession of child pornography.

Pinkley had been charged in November 2005 by complaint with possession of child pornography and was ordered detained pending trial. The affidavit filed in support of the criminal complaint stated that law enforcement agents were notified on November 9, 2005 of pornographic photos of an unidentified child that were developed at a processing facility in Crawfordsville, Indiana, as part of an order placed by Pinkley at a Wal-Mart in Lincoln.

The indictment alleges that from about November 2003 through November 10, 2005, Pinkley enticed a minor to engage in sexually explicit conduct to produce visual depictions, and that he possessed books, videotapes, computer images and other materials containing three or more images of child pornography. The indictment also seeks criminal forfeiture of property containing images of child pornography or which was used to produce child pornography.

Pinkley will be arraigned in federal court in Springfield at a date to be determined by the U.S. District Clerk. If convicted, the offense of production of child pornography carries a mandatory minimum of 15 years to 30 years in prison; possession of child pornography carries a maximum sentence of 10 years imprisonment and a fine of \$250,000.

(More)

The charges are the result of an investigation by the Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement. The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney John Childress.

Members of the public are reminded that an indictment is merely an accusation; the defendant is presumed innocent unless proven guilty.

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